

**Amherst Budget Coordinating Group**  
**Summary Points – October 20, 2011**

At our October 20<sup>th</sup> meeting, the members of the Budget Coordinating Group agreed that the following points would be conveyed to our home boards and committees:

- 1) That initial projections for FY13 suggest a modest State Aid increase. That would fund a level services budget for the Town. It would be insufficient to cover level services for the Schools, largely due to the end of Federal Ed. Jobs grant funding, and would require cuts. The Library faces ongoing endowment challenges, due to low investment returns and unsustainable withdrawal percentages.
- 2) That the FY13 Budget Calendar is a key resource for all, and updates should be sent to Sandy as changes occur. Access it on the FY13 Budget page of the Town web site, where comprehensive information, including School and Library budget links, will be available throughout the budget process.
- 3) That BCG's goals for this year are to:
  - a) Share budget information and coordinate budget processes in order to create unified recommendations for Annual Town Meeting.
  - b) To work together to help create a policy on how to fund the enormous liability of health care obligations (known as OPEB – Other Post Employment Benefits) to retirees of the Town, Schools and Libraries.